



JPW

Docket No. 1232-4640

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hirofumi TAKEI
Serial No.: 09/645,753
Filed: August 24, 2000
For: AUTOFOCUS STROBE CONTROL IN IMAGE SENSING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2612
Examiner: N. Vu

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 56, applicant hereby calls the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449.

A. Copy(ies) of these references:

- ☒ are attached.
☐ were filed in related application U.S. Serial No(s) _____, filed _____, respectively.
☐ are not required since the application was filed on or after June 30, 2003, and the disclosed references are U.S. Patents or Publications. see MPEP, 8th Edition, Revision No. 2, May 2004, Section 609, Part III A(2)(A).

B. Fees

- ☐ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since:
- ☐ This document is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application
 - ☐ This document is being concurrently filed with the above-identified application
 - ☐ This document is being concurrently filed with an Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
 - ☐ This document is being filed prior to a first Office Action
 - ☒ This document is being filed before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). A copy of the certification is attached
- ☐ A fee is due for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the receipt of a first office action but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action).
- ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) and the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) which is enclosed.
- ☐ A check for the requisite fee of \$180 under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) and 1.17(p) is enclosed.

C. Certifications

- ☐ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

D. Explanation/Translation of Non-English References

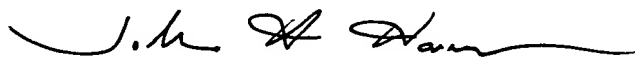
- ☒ No explanation of relevancy is required since the attached references are accompanied by ☐ a Search Report ☒ Communication which was cited in a corresponding ☐ PCT or ☒ Foreign counterpart application.
- ☒ For each of the items listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is also enclosed.
- ☐ For each of the items listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4640. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: _____

11/22/2004

By: _____



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↑AFFIX CUSTOMER NO. LABEL ABOVE ↑

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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION	Attorney Docket: 1232-4640	Serial No.: 09/645,753
	Applicant: Hirofumi TAKEI	
	Filing Date: August 24, 2000	Group Art Unit: 2612

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Publication Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AJ	2000-111790	04/21/2000	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AK	7-99600	04/11/1995	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AL	2000-253302	09/14/2000	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AM	11-64723	03/05/1999	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AN	8-275050	10/18/1996	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AO	7-92371	04/07/1995	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AP	6-90397	03/29/1994	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AQ	9-312797	12/02/1997	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)
	AR	5-268505	10/15/1993	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Abstract Only)

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, etc.)

	AS	
	AT	

Examiner	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.	



REQUEST FORM FOR FILING OF AN INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The company patent representative or foreign patent associate is requested to complete this form when forwarding information or prior art to U.S. Patent Attorney for filing an Information Disclosure Statement with respect to a pending U.S. patent application.

1. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION [complete all items 1(a)-(e) below]

- (a) Inventor(s) **Hirofumi Takei**
- (b) U.S. Application No. **09/645,753**
- (c) U.S. Filing Date **August 24, 2000**
- (d) Your Reference **1232-4640**
- (e) Our Reference **P200-0196US
CFM01982US**

2. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILING PROCEDURE

[complete item 2(a), 2(b) or 2(c) below]

- (a) [] Certification is not required OR payment of PTO fee is elected instead of certification. Accordingly, the certification statement of item 3 is not completed.
- (b) [X] Certification is required OR Certification is elected instead of PTO fee payment. Accordingly, the certification statement of item 3(a) or (b) is completed below.
- (c) [] Other- specify. _____
(e.g., file continuation or file continuation with Petition to Withdraw]

3. CERTIFICATION STATEMENT [complete item 3(a) or 3(b) below if applicable]

- (a) [X] Each item of information for this request for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application on
September 3, 2004 [specify date]. (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)).

or

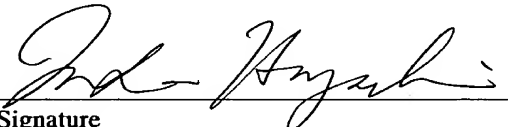
- (b) [] No item of information for this request for filing an Information Disclosure Statement: (1) was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office; or (2) was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) (i.e., inventor; company patent representative or foreign patent associate who prepares or prosecutes the application; or other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application) before _____ [specify date].
(37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2)).

The undersigned certifies that all statements made above of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true after making reasonable inquiry.

- (c) [X] File an Information Disclosure Statement at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by
December 3, 2004 [date specified should be within 3 months of the above Item
3(a) or 3(b) date].

November 9, 2004
Date

Information submitted by:
[check box applicable]


Signature
Name: **Miharu Hayashi**
[] Company Patent Representative
[X] Foreign Patent Associate